professionals deputed to PTC, Zimbabwe; and

(c) whether there is any difference in the air-travel, local expenses and other allowances charged by the TCIL from PTC, Zimbabwe and paid to the sub-contractor, if so, the details and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The total value of 4 projects undertaken by TCIL for Zimbabwe PTC is US$ 1,586,313 & Z $ 5,580,830. Out of these, a part of the project amounting to US$ 319,500 has been sub-contracted to TCIL Bellsouth Ltd. (TBL), a joint venture company of TCIL.

(b) The following persons have been deputed by TBL to implement project for "Administrator" Software package:—

Sl. No.	Name S/Shri	Deputation (Months)	living Allowance (US$) for the period
1.	S. Bhalla	12	16200
2.	Deepak Subedar	8	8000
3.	Pankaj Agarwal	8	8000
4.	S. Agarwal	6	6000

The above allowances are being paid by TBL. Basic Pay and HRA entitlement in India, cost of travel, overseas insurance in Zimbabwe for all the four officers are also being paid by sub-contractor viz. TBL. TBL has taken a bond from each employee to recover the entire expenditure in India and abroad incurred for the deputation plus Rs. 10,000/- in case of breach of contract on pre-mature return.

(c) Yes, Sir. There is a difference of US$ 26,500. This takes care of overhead charges and business promotion expenses incurred by TCIL towards the entire contract.

Environmental Clearance of Tourism Development Projects in Gujarat

2192. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some tourism development projects of Gujarat State are pending for environmental Clearance with the Government;

(b) if so, the state where these projects are lying pending; and

(c) the steps taken to expedite clearance of those projects; and

(d) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) No tourism development project of Gujarat State is pending with the Government for environmental clearance.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Tannery Pollutions

2193. SHRI R. MARGABANDU: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are interested to protect agriculturists against tannery pollution;

(b) whether Government have got proposal to pay compensation to the affected persons both by health and land;

(c) what is the extent of the damage in North Arcot District in Tamil Nadu in particular and in general in the whole of Tamil Nadu;

(d) which are the places in Tamil Nadu Affected by tanneries; and

(e) what steps Government are intending to take to save human souls?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) The Government has laid down standards for discharge of tannery effluents in order to protect the environment, including agricultural land, from degradation. These standards are enforced by the State Pollution Control Boards and the Pollution Control committee set up in the Union Territories. The issue of compensation for damage to land and adverse health effects is decided on a case by case basis by the appropriate authority in each State.

(c) and (d) As per the information provided by the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, 15762 hectares out of 592018 in North Arcot district have been affected due to pollution from tanneries. Some areas in other districts such as Chingleput MGR, Periyar, Trichy and Dindigul have also been affected.

(e) The Government has formulated a scheme for setting up Commen Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) for clusters of small scale industries, including tanneries. The Central Government provides 25 per cent of the capital cost subejct to a limit of Rs. 50 lakhs and a corresponding grant from the State Government. Of the 880 tanneries in Tamil Nadu, 708 are covered by CETPs while 91 have individual treatment facilities. The remaining tanneries are in the process of installing treatment plants.

Posting of IPS cadre officers in Home Circle

2194. SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an IPS cadre officer of the Postal Department is entitled for posting in his/her home circle for 25 years;

(b) if not, the reasons for retention of the present Post master General, North Region, Bihar, Muzaffarpur in his home circle for nearly 25 yers;

(c) whether Secretary, Department of Post has received a representation dated 7th March 1995 containing allegations of corruption etc. against the Post Master General, North Region, Muzaffarpur, Bihar; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and action taken in the matter!

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Posting and transfers of Indian postal Service Officers are made keeping in view the operational requirements and the precribed procedures in this regard.

(b) The concerned officer has served in different spells in his home circle for about 15 years.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Appropriate enquiry has been initiated into the allegations.

suitable steps have been subsequently taken to ensure effective management and a proper working environment, by posting senior and experienced officer to look after the charge of the Head of the Bihar Postal Cicle.

Construction of Power project without Clearance under Forest Conservation act in Sikkim

2195. SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as reported in a number of National dailies that the Rathongchu Hydel Power Project in West Sikkim is going to be the "Tehri of the East" as the State Government has not Fulfilled the conditions imposed by the Ministry;